

Amendments to the Claims:

Re-write the claims as set forth below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A kit of parts for use in fabricating an air-conditioning system, comprising:

a tubing component having at least two in-line sections with different external diameters;
and

a set of connection means, each connection means dimensioned to be joined to the tubing component at a respective section and to enable connection to a pipe of ~~substantially~~ the same diameter as the respective section.

2. (Previously presented) A kit according to Claim 1, wherein each connection means comprises a locking ring.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously presented) A method of connecting a tubing component to a pipe of an air-conditioning system, comprising:

providing a tubing component with at least two in-line sections with different external diameters;

selecting a section of the tubing component with substantially the same diameter as the pipe;

when the selected section is not at an end of the tubing component, cutting the tubing component in the vicinity of the selected section so that the selected section is at an end of the tubing component;

providing a set of connection means in a range of sizes;

selecting a connection means of suitable dimensions for joining to the selected section;

and

joining the selected connection means both to the tubing component at the selected section and to the pipe.

5. (Original) A method according to Claim 4, wherein each connection means comprises a locking ring.

6. (Currently amended) A kit of parts for use in fabricating an air-conditioning system, comprising:

a tubing component having at least two in-line sections with different external diameters;
and

means for connecting any of the sections of the tubing component to a pipe of ~~substantially~~ the same diameter as the section of the tubing component.

7. (Currently amended) The kit of parts of claim 1 wherein each connection means is configured to join the tubing component at a respective section with a pipe of ~~substantially~~ the same diameter without having the pipe inserted into the relevant tubing component.

8. (Previously presented) The kit of parts of claim 1 wherein each connection means includes a first portion that is dimensioned to be joined to the tubing component at a respective section and a second portion adapted to enable connection to a pipe of substantially the same diameter as the respective tubing section.

9. (Previously presented) The kit of parts of claim 1 wherein each connection means includes at least two ends, one end dimensioned to receive a respective tubing component section and an opposite end dimensioned to receive a pipe within the connection means.